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INTERNATIONAL POLICY: Summit Talks

In Radio Address:

President Nixon Summarizes Annual 'State of World' Report

RETURN FROM CHINA. President Richard Nixon, center, together with Mrs. Nixon and Vice President Spiro T. Agnew, renders a salute during the playing of the National Anthem following the return of the first family on Feb. 28 from a historic week-long trip to the People's Republic of China. Several thousand persons crowded into an Andrews Air Force Base hanger to welcome the President and and his party.
(Official USAF Photo by SSgt. David E. Spaner)

President Richard Nixon delivered his third annual "State of the World" report to the Congress Feb. 9. On that same morning, in a 10-minute nationwide radio broadcast delivered from the Oval Office of the White House, the President spoke about the highlights of his 236-page report.

Following is his radio message:

For the first time in a generation, the most powerful Nation in the world and the most populous nation in the world, the United States and the People's Republic of China, have begun a process of communication.

For the first time in a generation, we have taken a series of steps that could mean a new relationship with the Soviet Union.

For the first time in a generation, our alliances with the nations of Europe, Japan and other nations have been reshaped to reflect their new capacity to assume a greater responsibility for their own defense.

For the first time in a generation, we have laid a new basis for fair competition in world trade that will mean more jobs for American workers.

These are great changes. They have brought the world closer to a stable peace. They did not happen by accident. These breakthroughs toward peace took place in the past year for a good reason.

Three years ago, we stopped reacting on the basis of yesterday's habits and started acting to deal with the realities of today and the opportunities of tomorrow.

Where has this new attitude taken us? In our relations with the Soviet Union,

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COMMANDERS DIGEST
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE • WASHINGTON, D.C.

Vol. 11, No. 20 **March 16, 1972**

DEFENSE POLICY: Unified Command Feature

At MacDill AFB, Florida

U.S. Readiness Command Is 'A Key to Peace'

By General John L. Throckmorton, USA
Commander-in-Chief, United States Readiness Command

The United States Readiness Command, established Jan. 1, 1972, with headquarters at MacDill Air Force Base, Florida, is one of seven unified commands in the U.S. Armed Forces.

The Readiness Command replaced the U.S. Strike Command, which was abolished on Dec. 31, 1971.

U.S. Readiness Command is intended to convey accurately the Command's primary mission: to provide a reserve of combat-ready general purpose forces based in the continental United States to reinforce our unified commands overseas. As a corollary to that mission, the Readiness Command conducts joint training and joint exercises to assure a high level of readiness and rapid reaction capability. It conducts deployment planning, and it makes recommendations to the Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS) on doctrine and techniques for the joint employment of assigned general purpose forces.

When the Strike Command was created in October, 1961, the assignment of CONUS-based combatant forces to this new command completed the unified command structure envisioned by the Defense reorganization act of 1958. The

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'STATE OF THE WORLD'

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these were the elements of the breakthrough that took place over the past 12 months. We broke the deadlock in the arms limitation negotiations and agreed on a framework for progress in the SALT talks.

We agreed on a treaty barring weapons of mass destruction from the ocean floor, and on another treaty to remove the threat of germ warfare.

We agreed on a more reliable "hot line" between Washington and Moscow, and found new ways to consult each other in emergencies which will reduce the risk of accidental nuclear war.

And in a step of the greatest importance, we reached an agreement on Berlin. If there was one city where World War III could have broken out in the past 20 years, it was Berlin. This new agreement reduces the danger of the superpowers in direct confrontation.

There are other areas where we have had, and continue to have, serious differences with the Soviet Union. On balance, however, I have concluded that Soviet willingness to take positive steps toward peace in the past year makes a meeting at the highest level timely, particularly in arms limitation and economic cooperation.

Will Visit Moscow

That is why, for the first time, a President of the United States will visit Moscow. I will go to that meeting in May with no naive illusions, but with some reasonable expectations.

Our relations with the Soviet Union were helped by the fact that our two nations have had long-standing communication. Because we deeply understood what our real differences were, we could move to negotiate them.

When it came to dealing with the People's Republic of China, 25 years of hostility stood in the way. Accordingly, I began what is now three years of the most painstaking and necessarily discreet preparation for an opening to the world's most populous nation. . . .

The agreement to meet and the mutual trust needed to make the arrangements for the first American state visit to the People's Republic of China are breakthroughs of great importance.

We do not expect instant solutions to deep-seated differences. But the visit is a beginning. Now, in the relations between our countries, the old exchange of denunciations can be replaced with a constructive exchange of views.

A More Balanced Alliance

Just as we have established a creative relationship with our adversaries, we have developed a more balanced alliance with our friends.

Not so long ago, our alliances were addressed exclusively to the containment of the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of China. But now, there has to be more to our alliance. It is fairly simple to unite about what you are against. It is a lot more complicated to hold together an alliance on the basis of what you are for.

We do not shy away from this complexity because now, in this time of breakthroughs, there has never been a greater need for a sense of common purpose among the non-Communist nations. There is no requirement that we all march in lockstep; but there is a need to move forward in the same direction.

That is why we encourage initiative and self-reliance on the part of our allies. That is why our alliance is becoming what we need in the real world of the '70s—a dynamic coalition of self-assured and independent nations.

Our former dependents have become our competitors. That is good for them, and it is also good for us.

Rules Change

But as the roles change, the rules change. The old international monetary and trading system had become unfair to the American workers and to American business. Facing vigorous, healthy competitors, the United States could no longer be expected to compete with one hand tied behind its back.

Nothing would have happened unless we made it happen. Last August, we took action to stimulate a worldwide settlement of the problem. Within a few months, a general realignment of the currencies took place, the first step toward complete reform.

We succeeded in moving the non-Communist world away from the constant state of monetary crisis of the past decade, and we removed a danger to the unity of the Free World.

Let me turn now to Vietnam. This has been America's longest and most difficult war. It began long before I became President. I have been doing everything I could honorably do to end it.

I have brought almost one-half million men home from Vietnam. As high as 300 [men] a week were being killed in action when I took office. This week there were two [servicemen killed]. We have reduced air sorties, budget costs and draft calls. We have made the most generous peace offer in the history of warfare.

Has No Complaint

I have no complaint over the fact that during this period, when I have been ending a war I did not begin, I have been subjected to vigorous criticism. I do not question the patriotism or the sincerity of those who disagree with my policies to bring peace; but as I said in 1968, when I was a candidate for President, we have only one President at a time, and only the President can negotiate an end to the war.

There should always be free debate and criticism, so that our policy will represent the best thinking of our Nation; but a candidate for President has a higher responsibility than the ordinary critic. A candidate should make any criticism he believes would contribute to bringing a honorable peace. But I would hope that anyone seeking the

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COMMANDERS DIGEST

A publication of the Department of Defense intended to provide official information to commanders and key personnel on matters related to Defense policies and interests, and to create better understanding and teamwork within the Department of Defense.

Published weekly by the American Forces Press Service, 1117 N. 19th St., Arlington, Va. 22209, a unified activity of the Office of Information for the Armed Forces, OASD (M&RA). **Reproduction of content is authorized.**

READINESS COMMAND

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formation of Strike Command effectively joined Army and Air Force tactical forces into a hard-hitting team, prepared to reinforce other unified commands around the world.

Strike Command fulfilled that responsibility with distinction, notably in providing joint-trained, combat-ready forces in the Cuba crisis of 1962, in the Dominican crisis of 1965, and in the buildup of U.S. forces in Southeast Asia. But Strike Command proved itself capable also of missions of mercy, saving lives and averting starvation and epidemics among millions of people in Africa, the Middle East, Southern Asia, and in our own hemisphere.

Now, the U.S. Readiness Command is prepared to add to that proud record and looks forward to new and challenging responsibilities in support of President Richard Nixon's Strategy for Peace.

Credible Reinforcements

The President has emphasized that as part of his strategy the United States will maintain strategic forces in sufficient size and character to deter global war. But he has pointed out that, with U.S. strategic forces continuing to maintain a global nuclear standoff, the Nation's general purpose forces now play a larger role in deterring attack than at any time since the nuclear era began.

The United States can safely reduce its military presence in those overseas areas where it has treaty obligations, Mr. Nixon has said, only if it has "credible reinforcements" at home, trained and ready to move at the first sign of trouble.

It is the primary mission of the U.S. Readiness Command to provide those credible reinforcements, well versed in joint operations and ready for immediate deployment to bolster our own forces or those of our allies.

Headquarters and Components

U.S. Readiness Command headquarters is authorized 322 military personnel of all four Services and 77 civilian personnel, for a total strength of 399. The joint character of the headquarters is maintained by interlinking officers of all Services—primarily Army and Air Force—in staff positions. The Deputy Commander-in-Chief is Air Force Lieutenant General James V. Edmundson. Army Major General Wendell J. Coats is Chief of Staff. Of the six staff directors—J-1 through J-6—three are Army officers and three are Air Force officers. In each case, an officer of another Service is the deputy. The same joint pattern applies throughout the headquarters directorates and special staff.

Also located with U.S. Readiness Command at MacDill Air Force Base is a joint Communications Support Element, an organization with a capability unique in the Defense Department. With a strength of about 350 Army and Air Force officers and men, it is equipped to serve the joint headquarters in field exercises and to interface with communications elements of the component forces. It is also available to other unified commands for exercises and contingency operations when directed by the JCS.

A joint airborne communications center/command post, nicknamed Jackpot, exemplifies the air transportability of all equipment assigned to the Communications Support Element. The Jackpot team provides essential command and control communications in the air en route to the objective area and on the ground until backup personnel and equipment arrive.

To fulfill its mission responsibilities, the Readiness Command draws upon combat-ready forces of the Continental Army Command (CONARC) and Tactical Air Command (TAC) based in the continental United States. Our component commanders include: Army General Ralph E. Haines Jr., Commanding General of CONARC and Commander-in-Chief, Army Forces, U.S. Readiness Command; and Air Force General William W. Momyer, TAC Commander and Commander-in-Chief, Air Force Forces, U.S. Readiness Command.

Tactical airlift requirements for Readiness Command forces are provided by TAC's C-130 Hercules transports. Tactical airlift is augmented as necessary by the strategic airlift of the Military Airlift Command with its C-141 Starlifters and C-5 Galaxies. Rapid long-range deployment of tactical fighter and reconnaissance aircraft is accomplished by KC-135 jet tankers of the Strategic Air Command.

Doctrine and Techniques

As part of its function to make recommendations to the JCS on joint doctrine and techniques, the Readiness Command provides a field laboratory for the JCS to test joint concepts and alternative weapon systems under simulated combat conditions. Until Strike Command was established in 1961, neither the JCS nor the individual Services had the capability to test, evaluate, and reconcile opposing and often competing concepts of joint force employment. Readiness Command carries on this function.

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Army General John L. Throckmorton, Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Readiness Command, prepared the accompaning article exclusively for Commanders Digest. In it, he cites his views and the future outlook for his command.

General Throckmorton was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Infantry when he graduated from the U.S. Military Academy in 1935. He was Assistant G-3, Operations, with the First Army in Europe in World War II, and led the 5th Regimental Combat Team in Korea, spearheading the breakout of U. N. forces from the Pusan perimeter in September, 1950. Airborne-qualified since 1948, he commanded the 82d Airborne Division before being assigned as Deputy Commander, U.S. Military Assistance Command, Vietnam, from 1964 to 1965. Later he commanded the XVIII Airborne Corps.

In August, 1969, he was named Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Strike Command, and became Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Readiness Command, when it replaced USSTRICOM on Jan. 1, 1972.

THE PANAMA CANAL

Progress of New Treaty Negotiations

Why is the U.S. renegotiating the Panama Canal Treaty?

Importance of the Canal: More than 70 per cent of trans-Isthmian traffic each year either originates or terminates in U.S. ports; the Canal serves as many as 15,000 vessels a year; it is one of the world's most strategic waterways, highly important to U.S. national security.

Treaty Negotiations: The U.S. has operated in the Panama Canal Zone for the last 68 years under the basic terms of **the Treaty of 1903.** Panama has been discontented with the treaty since its inception. Panamanian resentments are such that they have boiled over twice in destructive and bloody riots in recent years. In an effort to improve the situation, treaty revisions were made in 1936 and 1955, but they failed to satisfy Panama's principal objections. In 1964, following discussion of the situation in the Organization of American States (OAS), the United Nations (U.N.), and other international forums, President Lyndon B. Johnson agreed to begin negotiations for a new treaty relationship. **Three draft treaties** were negotiated by the U.S. and Panama **between 1964 and 1967,** but were not ratified at the time and were rejected by Panamanian General Omar Torrijos' Government which took power in 1968. At the request of the new Government of Panama, President Richard Nixon agreed more than a year ago to renew discussions for a new Canal treaty; they began June 29, 1971.

Panamanian objections: The feature Panama most objects to—U.S. exercise of sovereign rights in perpetuity—remained unchanged in the treaty revisions of 1936 and 1955. Also, the annual payments to Panama and other economic benefits for Panama from the Canal are less than the Panamanians believe to be justified. In addition, Panama objects to:

—The 10-mile-wide zone in which 40,000 U.S. citizens live, primarily outside the jurisdiction and economy of Panama;

—U.S. control of all the deep-water ports serving the Republic;

—U.S. maintenance of a police force, courts, and jails in the Canal Zone to enforce U.S. law on U.S. and Panamanian citizens alike;

—The "haven" which the Canal Zone provides for Panamanian criminals fleeing from Panamanian jurisdiction, leaving the lengthy legal process of international extradiction as the only recourse for the Panamanian Government.

Canal's importance to Panama: The Canal is a prime source of revenue:

—Nearly one-third of Panama's gross national product in 1970 (approximately $992 million) was attributable to the Canal and its military bases.

—Forty-five per cent of its foreign exchange earnings from exports of goods and services in 1970 were comprised of direct payments from the Canal and its military bases.

—Nearly one-third of Panama's em-

ployment, nationwide, is due to the presence of the Canal, which is run largely by Panamanian citizens—11,000 of the 15,000 employes engaged in Canal operations.

—Panama's per capita income of $693 is the highest in Central America, more than twice the average. It is the fourth highest in Latin America as a whole, exceeded only by that of Argentina, Venezuela and Uruguay.

U.S. Treaty Objectives: The United States is seeking continued U.S. control and defense of the Canal under a treaty arrangement that will be acceptable to Panama and thus ensure the continuation of the U.S. presence in harmony. Both countries agree that a new treaty should establish a more modern and enduring relationship. The United States seeks:

—The right to administer, operate and defend the Canal for an extended period of time. (Panama has said it could agree to this, subject to agreement on the duration of the treaty and on other treaty aspects of interest to Panama.)

—Clear provisions which would permit the expansion of Canal capacity to meet world shipping needs by the construction of either a sea-level canal or third locks for the present Canal.

—A guarantee in a new treaty that the Canal will remain permanently open to all world shipping at reasonable tolls on a non-discriminatory basis.

—Particular attention to U.S. security interests in negotiating the duration of a new treaty.

Panamanian Objectives: Panama seeks the application of its laws to various activities in the present Canal Zone. These include certain jurisdictional rights and activities, including commercial operations, not necessary for the administration, operation and defense of the Canal, and the return of certain land and water areas in the Canal Zone not needed for these purposes, but useful in the agricultural, industrial and urban development of Panama. Panama also seeks a substantial increase in Canal profits, as well as greater indirect benefits through the opening of the Canal Zone to Panamanian commercial enterprise, increased use of Panamanian products and services in the Canal operation, and employment of more Panamanian citizens. The U.S. is prepared to negotiate these matters and will ensure that the U.S. Congress retains a role in the setting of tolls, which have not been raised since 1914.

INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS: Europe

U.S. Position on European Security Conference Explained

What is the U.S. position toward a Conference on European Security?

Background: The U.S.S.R. and its Warsaw Pact allies have long advocated an "All-European Conference on Security and Cooperation" but have more recently stated that the U.S. and Canada could participate. They have proposed essentially the following agenda:

—Renunciation of the use or threat of force and respect for existing European frontiers;

—Developing cooperation in commercial and cultural fields between European states; and,

—The establishment of a permanent body to address questions of security and cooperation in Europe.

NATO position: The U.S. and its allies welcome all constructive proposals that can help reduce the causes of tension and promote cooperation in Europe. But they believe it will not be enough to talk of European security in the abstract. The causes of insecurity in Europe are specific and deeply rooted in conflicting perceptions of State interests. They will require patient endeavor to eliminate. The allies remain willing to negotiate in any suitable forum those concrete issues whose resolution would enhance the security of Europe.

NATO and U.S.S.R. conditions for conference: The NATO allies have indicated their readiness to undertake multilateral conversations intended to lead to a Conference on European Security and Cooperation in Europe—the preferred allied designation—when the Berlin Agreement has been signed. The second of three stages of the Agreement was completed in December, 1971. When the third stage—the final Quadripartite Protocol, bringing the entire Berlin agreement into effect—is signed, the initial multilateral talks can begin. The U.S.S.R., however, has taken the position that the final Berlin Protocol cannot be signed until the August, 1970, Soviet-West German treaty on improved relations is ratified by the Federal Republic of Germany.

U.S. position: Our basic approach is that the conference should:

—Emphasize substance over atmosphere, and encourage the reconciliation of sovereign European States—not confirm their division;

—Address the basic principles that should govern relations among States, such as sovereign equality of States, noninterference in the internal or external affairs of States and the peaceful settlement of disputes, and assert the application of these principles regardless of political or social systems;

—Give emphasis to issues of cooperation on which East-West progress is attainable—e.g., East-West trade, exchanges of science and technology, the problems of preserving the environment; and,

—Take specific steps to encourage the freer movement of people, ideas and information.

READINESS COMMAND

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In planning joint exercises, Readiness Command invites suggestions from the Services and JCS on concepts or hardware that might be included in the exercise play. Evaluation reports, prepared after each exercise, provide objective appraisals of their effectiveness. Often an evaluation report offers suggestions for alternatives or refinements to be employed in subsequent exercises, until a concept emerges in a form suitable for submission as a recommendation to the JCS.

Through such efforts, the Strike Command was able to achieve notable gains in bringing the Army and Air Force together on close support and tactical airlift procedures in the early and mid-60s. Those issues were ironed out in a series of exercises just prior to the commitment of major U.S. forces to Southeast Asia, and both ground and air commanders in that theater have attested to their effectiveness.

In developing scenarios to conduct field evaluations, Readiness Command augments its own four-Service staff personnel with experts from its Army and Air Force components and from any other military or civilian source that can contribute to defining the problem and suggesting test approaches. The final evaluation report that goes forward to JCS is, however, solely Readiness Command's responsibility.

A related function is performed by Readiness Command's Joint Air Movements Board. Originally established under Strike Command as the Joint Airdrop Board to establish fixes for parachute or airdrop equipment malfunctions, the Board's charter has been expanded to include the entire spectrum of the air movement of personnel, equipment and supplies, covering tactical airdrops, airlanding operations and administrative air movements. The Board's membership is drawn from representatives of Readiness Command headquarters, component commands, the Military Airlift Command (MAC), and other armed forces support commands and test centers that can contribute to, or profit from, the discussions. Readiness Command has recently taken action to set up a parallel Joint Sea Movements Board to apply the same kind of analysis to the movement of combat forces by sea.

THIRSTY BIRDS. F-4 Phantom jets of the Tactical Air Command are refueled by Strategic Air Command KC-135 tanker aircraft when on long-range deployment missions of the U.S. Readiness Command. (Official U.S. Readiness Command Photos)

The U.S. Readiness Command has no assigned geographic area of responsibility. The collateral mission of the commander-in-chief of Strike Command to oversee U.S. military interests in the Middle East, Africa South of the Sahara, and South Asia (MEAFSA) was not transferred to the commander-in-chief of Readiness Command. Instead, responsibility for the Middle East has been assigned to the European Command, which also assumed control over U.S. Military Assistance Advisory Groups and Missions in Africa South of the Sahara, while the Pacific Command's area has been extended to include South Asia.

As a result of those changes, the Readiness Command is responsible for *deployment* of air and ground forces, dispatching them from the U.S. to reinforce other unified commands, but has no *employment* responsibilities for those forces when they reach the objective area. When a unified commander requires additional forces in an emergency, he requests those forces from the JCS. The job of Readiness Command, once it is tasked by the JCS, is to assemble the forces and send them on their way by air or sea to the commander who needs them. Operational control of forces deployed by Readiness Command normally passes to the gaining unified commander at some predesignated offshore latitude between the departure base and the objective area.

But the key to the success of any given augmentation of another unified command is found in the quality of the prior planning done by both the supported command and by Readiness Command. In theory, Readiness Command is responsible for developing the deployment plan after the JCS has received and approved the overseas commander's requirements. In actuality, deployment planning by Readiness Command and employment planning by the supported command are closely interwoven.

The purpose of early participation with supported commands is to insure the effective integration of forces at either a designated staging area or in the objective area itself. The experience that Readiness Command has gained in its frequent joint exercises and in development of joint doctrine is available to the overseas commander in determining the mix and priorities of forces to be employed in a given contingency.

Rapid Reaction

A vital factor in any deployment is rapid reaction. As in fighting a forest

fire, a small force deposited at the scene of the crisis within hours can be more effective than a much larger force arriving after trouble erupts.

To facilitate that rapid reaction, a force list is maintained in computers at Readiness Command Headquarters, with full details on strength, readiness, equipment status, and airlift or sealift required for the movement of each element. That data is constantly updated to provide Readiness Command with a "shopping list" of available forces to meet a particular requirement. Also stored in the command's computer drums are recommended routings by air or sea from the units' home stations to the staging base or objective area. Ready access to such data speeds the consideration of available alternatives, and enables Readiness Command to reach the best possible decision in minimum time.

Joint Exercises

A major task before Readiness Command this year is to establish and maintain a high level of combat readiness in its component forces as they are being reconstituted with units withdrawn from Southeast Asia and other areas, and are undergoing extensive equipment changes. Individual and unit training are a responsibility of CONARC and TAC in their Service roles. However, those combat units which JCS has assigned to Readiness Command are the responsibility of the commander-in-chief, Readiness Command, for joint training, including exercises. No time has been lost in scheduling those units for joint training exercises.

Gen. John L. Throckmorton, USA

". . . Our readiness to respond rapidly in time of crisis with well trained, highly motivated professional joint forces is, as our Command motto declares: 'A Key to Peace.'"

Readiness Command has programmed a steady buildup in joint exercises, approaching the scale of the major exercises conducted by the Strike Command in its early years. Our first major exercise under Readiness Command is GALLANT HAND, which will take place in late March at Ft. Hood, Tex., involving an Army division and equivalent tactical air forces. Plans call for corps-sized, multi-division exercises to begin in 1974.

Readiness Command participates in five types of joint training exercises: Command Post Exercises (CPXs), medium-scale exercises under the nickname BRAVE SHIELD, large-scale exercises such as GALLANT HAND, augmentation exercises in support of other unified commands, and dual-base exercises in support of the U.S. European Command.

In a Command Post Exercise, appropriate staff agencies perform all planning and response functions that would be required in a real situation. It is a vehicle through which plans, coordinated responses, and communications are tested, evaluated, and improved. Some Readiness Command CPXs are conducted in concert with other agencies of the Defense Department worldwide. An example is the annual JCS-conducted CPX, HIGH HEELS.

Medium-scale BRAVE SHIELD exercises normally involve brigade and squadron-sized units of Readiness Command components. They are actually moved to a training area where they operate together to achieve specific joint training goals. Two or three BRAVE SHIELD exercises are planned to be conducted each year.

GALLANT HAND is the first large-

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Presidency would examine his statements carefully to be sure that nothing he says might give the enemy an incentive to prolong the war until after the election.

Trust in the United States, among the 45 nations with which we have treaty commitments, is essential if peace and freedom are to be preserved in the world. Let us end our involvement in the war in Vietnam in a way which will not destroy that trust.

Looking To Future

Looking ahead on the world scene, how can we move ahead to make the most of the breakthroughs of the past year? We must advance the delicate process of creating a more constructive relationship between ourselves and the People's Republic of China.

We must bring the arms race under control, and by so doing, lay the basis for other major steps toward peace that can be taken together by the United States and the Soviet Union. And equally important, we must continue to strengthen the partnership with our friends. We must work with friends and adversaries to build an international structure of peace which everyone will work to preserve because each nation will realize its stake in its preservation.

We must continue the process of reforming the world's financial and trading systems so that workers and consumers can benefit in America and in every country that has a competitive spirit.

Those are by no means the only items on our international agenda. We want to see the cease-fire in the Middle East, which we initiated, moved toward a more secure and permanent peace. We want to work out with our friends in Latin America, Africa and non-Communist Asia, new ways of helping them help themselves. We want to shore up the eroding confidence in the United Nations.

There is much unfinished business. But there is a new awareness of reality growing in the world. Movement and progress can be felt today where there were stagnation and frustration before.

By facing the realities of the world today—as this breakthrough year has shown we are capable of doing—we can make peace a reality in the generation ahead.

READINESS COMMAND

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scale exercise to be conducted in the U.S. in seven years. It calls for the maneuver of an Army division and the employment of corresponding airlift and tactical air forces. Exercises of this scope enable Readiness Command to improve realism and free play between opposing forces, thereby enhancing command and staff expertise in the application, control and management of forces in combat. They also provide a broader opportunity to evaluate new joint doctrinal concepts and to better modify existing techniques than is possible in the BRAVE SHIELD series.

The fourth type of exercise involves the augmentation of other unified commands. Here the deployment planning, joint training, and doctrinal responsibilities assigned to Readiness Command all enter into play under conditions of maximum realism. An example is the DEEP FURROW series, conducted under NATO auspices in the Mediterranean area.

Finally, Readiness Command supports the U.S. European Command's REFORGER/CRESTED CAP exercises, involving ground and air units stationed in the U.S. but earmarked for NATO assignments under operational control of the U.S. commander-in-chief, Europe. Those dual-based units return each year to Europe to participate in maneuvers with their parent organizations. Readiness Command is responsible for their deployment from U.S. stations, and picks up redeployment responsibility again when the units are returning to the U.S.

The purpose of all U.S. Readiness Command efforts is, of course, to train component forces in joint operations to make sure they are ready to respond swiftly and effectively whenever they may be called.

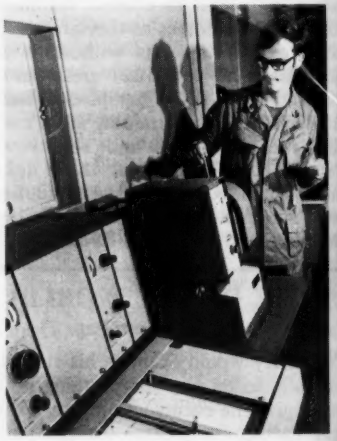
We are determined that both our friends and potential foes around the world will recognize that Readiness Command forces are, in fact, "credible reinforcements," for we believe, as our share in the President's strategy, that our readiness to respond rapidly in time of crisis with well trained, highly motivated professional joint forces is, as our Command motto declares: "A Key to Peace."

ARMED FORCES INITIATIVES

ALL-VOLUNTEER FORCE. Reports on Volunteer Army (VOLAR) projects at Ft. Riley, Kans., indicate that the program is working well there. Civilian kitchen police are on the job at seven infantry unit mess halls; more than $800,000 is being spent to improve barracks conditions; telephones are being installed on each floor of every barracks; and a new bus service enables personnel to get around the post at night and on weekends. Also, chinaware has replaced trays in mess halls; industrial-type vacuum cleaners have been provided for each company, and an electronics repair team is occupied solely with servicing dayroom televisions. In service clubs, large-screen television units (9 by 12 feet) are being installed. Additionally, the VOLAR program is spending $334,500 to replace soldiers with civilian workers in club operations. At Irwin Army Hospital, more than $300,000 is being spent to provide better outpatient care.

SUPPLEMENTAL BENEFITS. Specialist 4 Christopher J. Jimenez was recently the 1,750,000th U.S. soldier in Vietnam to be briefed by the Veterans Administration on VA benefits. Since January, 1967, VA representatives in Vietnam have been briefing departing soldiers on available health and financial benefits to which servicemen may be entitled after discharge from the armed forces. They have also assisted soldiers who are interested in Project Transition —a DoD program where servicemen, before discharge, can receive training at U.S. bases in trades ranging from bricklaying to auto mechanics. Briefing teams currently operate out of offices in Long Binh, Cam Ranh Bay, Da Nang, Phu Bai and Saigon.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY. More than 30 social action officers and equal opportunity officers from all Air Training Command bases recently convened at Randolph AFB, Tex., for a three-day workshop conference on the Social Actions Program. Lieutenant Colonel Hughie E. Mathews, Air Force Chief of the Human Relations Branch, gave an overview of the Air Force Equal Opportunity Program. Col. Mathews told conferees that more progress had been made in equal opportunity in the Air Force in the last eight months than in all the history of the Service. He credited last summer's work by the ATC Human Relations Team with playing a significant role in prompting current Air Force-wide accomplishments in human relations.



DRUG ABUSE. A U.S. Army medical laboratory technician operates a Free Radical Assay Technique (FRAT) machine, screening personnel for "hard" drugs at Long Binh, Vietnam. The device, which has received worldwide attention for identifying addicts among U.S. troops in Vietnam, began identifying drug users at a civilian drug treatment center in Ridgewood, N.J., in early February. Installed in a methadone detoxification clinic, FRAT confirms that new patients are really heroin addicts before they can receive methadone treatments, and also indicates when a patient backslides—virtually on the same day he reverts.

(Photo courtesy of Syva Corporation)

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Price 5 cents (single copy). Subscription Price: $2.50 per year; $2.00 additional for foreign mailing.
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